

## Minneapolis Redistricting Commission Minutes

Adjourned Session of the Redistricting Commission  
Monday, March 11, 2002, 6 PM  
Room 220 City Hall

Present: Commissioners: Trostel, Claypatch, Ferrara, Markus, Pettiford,  
Schwarzkopf, Stafford

Redistricting Coordinator Susanne Griffin - (612) 673-2073  
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1. Call to Order and Roll Call  
*Commission Chair Trostel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.  
Assistant City Clerk Steve Ristuben called the roll, with all members but  
Commissioner Collier and Commissioner Finch present.*
2. Approval of the Agenda  
*Markus moved to approve the agenda. Ferrara seconded the motion. It was  
approved on a unanimous voice vote.*
3. Approval of the Minutes for March 7, 2002  
*Schwarzkopf moved to approve the minutes. Claypatch seconded the  
motion. It was approved on a unanimous voice vote.*
4. Arrangements for the March 14 diversity meeting  
*The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. with no cable  
cast because their staff will be on vacation that day.*
5. Guidelines for drafting maps  
*Ferrara wants to look at 87 neighborhood boundaries and not fracture them  
by ward boundaries if possible. He would like to see how the Ward  
boundaries affect the neighborhoods now. He has a question about  
deviation. Why is 1% fairer than 5%? Some Wards don't vote in as big  
numbers as other Wards. The numbers are large in the Hollman area.*  
  
*Assistant City Attorney Michael Norton answered that there will be legal  
problems. The council member represents all the people in the Ward not just  
the voters. Can't look at the people who don't vote.*  
  
*Pettiford wants to make sure everyone is represented. What is good for the  
whole of the city more than the parts. The market value in the Hollman area  
will determine the people who move into the area.*

*Stafford wants to stay with 2% deviation instead of 5%, split as few neighborhoods as possible and then not more than twice, and not make great drastic changes in present Ward lines. He wants to attempt to make at least 4 minority opportunity districts with the capacity to elect a person of color. He wants to be consistent in standards used. Hollman is the exception not the rule, don't have to treat other parts of the City the same way as they treat Hollman.*

*Schwarzkopf wants 1% deviation or even .5%. Neighborhoods are important and were instituted 30 years ago. The Planning Department must restructure. He wants to keep present Council Members in Wards they presently are in. He wants to cut neighborhoods as little as possible. He wants to attempt to make at least 2 minority opportunity districts with the capacity to elect a person of color. He wants to think in terms of other areas such as Lake Street and Nicollet if the commission treats Hollman with a large deviation.*

*Markus wants to keep neighborhoods intact as much as possible but can combine neighborhoods to take into consideration a function such as the Hiawatha corridor. He wants to look long and hard at drawing a Downtown Ward because it would be an upscale living area and a muscular business area which could become a gated community. He wants to forget incumbent protection.*

*Claypatch agrees with Markus. He thinks geographic boundaries are good. He is not here to redesign the NRP and not be bound by neighborhoods. He wants to stay with small deviation, wants to attempt to make minority opportunity districts with the capacity to elect a person of color. He has no pre-drawn conclusions about a Downtown Ward. The Downtown development and jobs fuel the economy and tax base, which helps the neighborhoods.*

**Direction to Staff:** *What was the deviation used last time and 20 years ago?*

*Assistant City Attorney Michael Norton said the primary use of deviation is to cut across Census Blocks.*

**6. Redistricting timeline and meeting schedule**

*The timeline is missing the March 18, and the March 25 meetings. The April 3 meeting must be moved back.*

*Stafford made the motion to change the meeting from April 3, 2002 to April 2, 2002 to accept the tentative plan. Markus seconded the motion. It was passed by unanimous voice vote.*

*Claypatch moved to have the April 12, 2002 meeting start at noon. Ferrara seconded the motion. It was passed by unanimous voice vote.*

7. Commission staff contract, training and work arrangements  
*Staff is working on training and work arrangements.*

**Direction to Staff:** Is it possible to produce some maps and publish on the web site? Can there be a link from the redistricting web site to the Planning Department web site? How do the Commissioners get in touch with hired Commission staff people? The commission wants to have a single training schedule for staff and commissioners and to try for Wednesday, March 13, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 220 of the Tri Tech Center. It is suggested that two of the Maptitude licenses be given to the staff members so they can be available 24/7 to the Commissioners. What are the hours of the Tri Tech Center?

8. New Business

9. Stafford moved to adjourn to Room 220 in the Tri Tech Center at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, 2002 at 7:20 p.m. It passed on a unanimous voice vote.

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**Next Redistricting Commission Meeting: March 13, 2002 2 PM**  
**Room 220 Tri Tech Center**  
**331 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave S**

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Redistricting in the City of Minneapolis:  
What will it mean to Communities of Color?

Date: Thursday, March 28, 2002

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Place: Glover-Sudduth Center for Economic Development and Urban Affairs  
(The new Minneapolis Urban League building)  
2100 Plymouth Ave N, Minneapolis